REMARKS

Claims 2, 3, 5, 7-11 and 13 are pending. Claims 2, 3 and 5 are independent. Claims 2, 3, 5 and 7 have been amended. Claims 1, 4, 6 and 12 have been cancelled without prejudice. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication that claims 2, 3 and 5 would be allowable if rewritten into independent form. As these claims have been so rewritten¹, they are believed in condition for allowance.

The other claims are dependent upon one of claims 2, 3 or 5 and are believed patentable for at least the same reasons as their base claim.

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Dated: January 22, 2008 Respectfully submitted,

Joseph/W. Ragusa

Registration No.: 38,586 DICKSTEIN SHAPIRO LLP 1177 Avenue of the Americas

New York, New York 10036-2714

(212) 277-6500

Attorney for Applicant

Docket No.: M1909.1145.

¹ Certain redundant terminology was also removed from claim 3 to improve the form of that claim.